

Appl. No. 10/600,743  
Amdt. Dated May 7, 2004  
Reply to Office action of March 15, 2004

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled).
2. (currently amended) ~~The filter assembly of claim 1, further comprising:~~ A filter assembly for a filtering fryer system having a tank for containing hot oil, said filter assembly comprising:
  - at least one filter having an upper filter screen;
  - a filter wall extending around said upper filter screen;
  - said filter wall defining an enclosed area above said upper filter screen;
  - at least one drainage passageway proximate a lower edge of said filter wall;
  - said upper filter screen having a screen outer edge;
  - a plurality of channeled members;
  - each of said plurality of channeled members interlocking at least a portion of said screen outer edge; and
  - said filter wall extending upwardly from said plurality of channeled members.
3. (original) The filter assembly of claim 2, wherein said at least one drainage passageway is located in at least one of said plurality of channeled members.
4. (original) The filter assembly of claim 3, further comprising:
  - each of said plurality of channeled members having a first connection end and a second connection end;

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an alignment pin located on each said first connection end; and  
each said alignment pin aligning each said first connection end with a second connection end of an adjacent channeled member.

5. (original) The filter assembly of claim 3 wherein:

said filter having a plurality of filter corners; and  
a drainage passageway located proximate each said filter corner.

6. (original) The filter assembly of claim 2 wherein:

at least one drain opening provided in said filter wall;  
said at least one drain opening having an upper opening width and a lower opening width; and

said upper opening width greater than said lower opening width.

7. (original) The filter assembly of claim 6, wherein:

said at least one filter having a plurality of filter corners; and  
a drain opening provided at each said filter corner.

8. (original) The filter assembly of claim 2 wherein said at least one filter comprises an upper filter screen and a lower filter screen.

9. (original) A filter assembly for a filtering fryer system having a tank for containing hot oil, said filter assembly comprising:

at least one filter having an upper filter screen and a lower filter screen;  
said upper filter screen having a plurality of upper filter screen edges;  
said lower filter screen having a plurality of lower filter screen edges;  
a plurality of channeled members;

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each of said plurality of channeled members retaining an upper filter screen edge and a lower filter screen edge within a channel;

a filter wall extending upwardly from each said plurality of channeled members;

said filter wall defining an enclosed area above said upper filter screen; and

at least one drainage aperture.

10. (original) The filter assembly of claim 9 further comprising:

said at least one drainage aperture is at least one drainage passageway; and

said at least one drainage passageway provided in at least one of said plurality of channeled members.

11. (original) The filter assembly of claim 10, further comprising:

said plurality of channeled members each having a first connection end and a second connection end;

an alignment pin located on each said first connection end; and

said alignment pin aligning said first connection end with a second connection end of an adjacent channeled member.

12. (original) The filter assembly of claim 10 wherein a plurality of drainage passageways provided in said plurality of channeled members.

13. (original) The filter assembly of claim 12, further comprising:

said plurality of channeled members each having a first connection end and a second connection end;

an alignment pin located on each said first connection end;

an opening located within each said second connection end; and

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each said alignment pin aligning each said first connection end with said opening of a second connection end.

14. (original) The filter assembly of claim 13, wherein:

said at least one filter having a plurality of filter corners; and

a drainage passageway located at each said plurality of filter corners.

15. (original) The filter assembly of claim 9 wherein:

at least one drainage opening is provided in said filter wall;

said at least one drainage opening having an upper opening width and a lower opening width; and

said upper opening width greater than said lower opening width.

16. (original) The filter assembly of claim 9 wherein:

said at least one drainage aperture is provided in said filter wall proximate a lower edge of said filter wall.

17. (original) The filter assembly of claim 16, wherein:

said at least one filter having a plurality of filter corners; and

at least one drainage aperture located at each said filter corner.

18. (original) A filter assembly for a filtering fryer system having a tank for containing hot oil, said filter assembly comprising:

a filter having an upper filter screen and a lower filter screen;

a plurality of channeled members;

each of said plurality of channeled members interlocking at least a portion of said upper filter screen and said lower filter screen;

a filter wall extending upwardly from said plurality of channeled members;

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said filter wall defining an enclosed area above said upper filter screen;  
at least one drain opening provided in said filter wall;  
said at least one drain opening having an upper opening width and a lower opening width;

said upper opening width greater than said lower opening width.

19. (original) The filter assembly of claim 18 wherein:

said at least one filter having a plurality of filter corners; and  
a drain opening provided at each said filter corner.

20. (original) The filter assembly of claim 18, wherein:

at least one drainage passageway in at least one said channeled members.

21. (original) The filter assembly of claim 19, further comprising:

a drainage passageway provided at each said filter corner.